

ENGLISH DERBY GREATEST EVENT

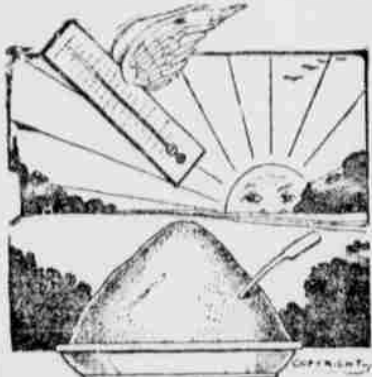
CLASSIC RACE IS THE CLASS OF
ALL INTERNATIONAL
SPORTS.

REGULATE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

American Lawn Tennis Team Com-
prises the Choice of American
Racquet Players.

NEW YORK, June 21.—The running of the English Derby, under the sensational incidents which marked the recent race at Epsom Downs, again calls attention to what is without doubt the greatest individual sporting event of the year in point of international importance. Established in 1750 by the Earl of Derby it is antedated by but few turf fixtures and has gradually engendered in world-wide interest all other races of similar character. The outcome of no other contest is awaited the world round with the interest that is manifested in the running of the Derby.

This is not due entirely to sentimental reasons, however, since wagering on the result is a part of the British education. No matter in what part of the globe he may be quartered the Englishman and his brother of the colonies must have something down on the Derby either in the form of a straight wager or a pool selection. Statisticians have endeavored many times to estimate the



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amount at stake in this race and have invariably given up the task in despair. That the total sum runs into millions of dollars is not questioned.

It is customary for the employees of every big mercantile plant, factory and similar concern to organize a pool months before the running of the Derby. The officers and soldiers of the British regiments stationed in all parts of the world follow suit. Sailors of all degrees under the union Jack also have their pools. In Canada, South Africa, Australia, India and all the other British settlements and possessions wagering and pools on the derby continue almost the year round. Scarcely has one race entered turf history before the next is being considered by the holders of winning and losing tickets alike.

Since the winning of a sum of the magnitude represented by some of the Derby pools is the event of a life time, it is easily understood why the holders of tickets on the favorites haunt the telegraph and cable offices in all parts of the world on Derby day. The flashing of the winner's name frequently means a sum running into thousands for the lucky ticket owner. In the case of the 1913 Derby, gloom followed joy for the victory of the 3 to 2 favorite Crispin had hardly been announced before there came a correction stating that Crispin had been disqualified for fouling and the Derby awarded to Abeyour, a 100 to 1 outsider.

That the proposed National Inter-scholastic Athletic association will become in due course of time a reality appears probable. The matter was fully discussed at the recent national championships held under the auspices of the New York Athletic club at Travers Island. It was the unanimous opinion that the athletes of the preparatory and high schools of this country had reached a stage of athletic development where their welfare demanded a national governing body. In all parts of the states there are schoolboy track and field performers, whose records a few years back would have been considered unbelievable to the average follower of amateur turf and cinder competition. The system of training from virtually childhood under direction of skilled trainers is in part responsible for this remarkable progress and the constantly increasing opportunities for trying out in meets is also an important factor.

At the present time there is nobody whose duty it is to see that suitable eligibility rules govern the various games in all parts of the country or to put the seal of authenticity upon the startling times and distances.

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credited to these schoolboy phenomena. This is the proposed duty of the organization which is being formed at present. A tentative constitution, bylaws and game regulations are being drawn up and when completed will be forwarded to the athletic association of every college in the country. These organizations will be asked to pass upon the same and return with such amendments as will ensure their support. When this stage has been reached the National Inter-scholastic A. A. will be incorporated and launched to cover a field not now occupied by either the Inter-collegiate A. A. A. or the Amateur Athletic Union.

Following the defeat of the English polo cup challenging team by the American four in the opening game of the series the visitors explained the upset, in part, by the statement that since their arrival in this country they had been unable to obtain continuous practice against fast playing, high caliber teams. This statement was true, but the fault lay not with either Polo association or any of its individual members, but the game itself. Polo in the United States is of comparatively recent origin and polo players capable of trying out the English four to the limit are few and far between. Whereas thousands play the game in England and the various British possessions, there are but few in comparison who participate in polo in the states.

The very fact that the few players of sufficient strength to give the challenges a thorough tryout were needed for the American team and reserve, placed an unintentional handicap upon the invading players. Occasionally one of the Meadow Brook "Big Four" or an American reservist practiced against the English, but this was avoided as far as possible in order that the charge might not be made later that the defenders were familiar with the English style of attack and defense. In years to come perhaps polo will reach a point of popularity in this country where in number of followers it will compare favorably with England. Until such time, however, the conditions of which the English players spoke must continue.

In sending Maurice E. McLoughlin, R. Norris Williams, 2nd, Harold H. Sackett and Wallace F. Johnson to England to continue the hunt for the Davis cup, the American Lawn Tennis association has named the strongest team possible, judged from the 1912 rankings. McLoughlin, Williams and Johnson are the three top rankers in the singles and Sackett is found in the second line of the doubles. Had T. C. Bundy, who with McLoughlin, won the United States double championship at Newport, been able to accept the invitation to compete abroad the champions would all have been battling for the cup.

That this team will give an excellent account of itself during the coming play both in the English championships and the succeeding Davis cup play goes without saying. In skill and strength it combines the best in tennis in the United States, and has the added advantage of youth in the case of three of the four players. Williams, Johnson and McLoughlin are scarcely out of their teens yet they have had plenty of experience in tennis play both at home and abroad. With Sackett, who has no superior in the matter of court strategy, to advise and coach them, the younger combination may be expected to carry off the burden of attack with reasonable success.

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PEANUT CROP INCREASING

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ADA, Okla., June 21.—In view of the fact that the two new crops of the west—kaffir corn and peanuts—have in the past few years been so extensively raised in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas it is of interest to know that they have made considerable change in the foreign and domestic commerce of the United States.

Of the crop of kaffir corn for 1912 over 1,000,000 bushels passed through the ports of Galveston and New Orleans for European ports. The creation of an European demand will have a tendency to steady prices. If not increase it, as the consumers of Europe estimate its value at 90 per cent that of corn and on that base its value, as a fuel, for animals is placed. Up to the present time it has been raised for its drought resisting tendency, to give the farmer an assurance of fodder for cattle raising, but now that it has become a marketable cereal of world wide extent its future as a reliable and profitable cereal is firmly established.

Estimates on the acreage of the west places the number of bushels for export the coming fall at fully 10,000,000—a marvelous increase for the cereal.

The demand for peanuts has also increased remarkably owing to the new food—peanut butter and other comestible uses—which is rapidly attaining popularity. It is but six years ago that any extended effort was made to grow peanuts Virginia and the Carolinas which section produced six years ago, 14,000,000 bushels. Four years later, after Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi and Alabama began the growing of them the crop increased to 20,000,000. The crop was valued at \$20,000,000.00 for 1912. It is estimated that 2,500,000 acres are in cultivation this year, from which \$40,000,000.00 should be received. Oklahoma has an acreage of 200,000 and its value will approximate \$1,250,000.00.

The Twenty-first Annual Commencement of the University of Oklahoma began Sunday, June 8, with

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